

In re Application of:
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REMARKS

Further to the preliminary amendment filed April 23, 2004, Applicants provide further evidence of the unexpected success of the invention. In the prior amendment, Applicants noted the skepticism that surrounded the art of tape stripping and that "it is evident that the practice of tape stripping was and is not viewed as a potentially quantitative method by two of the most influential associations in dermatological and pharmaceutical science. While these opinions are directed at the use of tape stripping for the dermatopharmacokinetic determination of bioequivalence, the same drawbacks are perceived to affect any quantitative assay that involve tape stripped skin, including quantitating RNA levels, as recited in the pending claims." Exhibit "A" is a recently published paper which describes the claimed methods and Exhibit "B" provides a commentary on the methods used in the paper. In particular, the commentary notes in the last line that the methods described in the paper, which are reflected in Applicants' claimed invention, provide an "amazing technological advancement" in the area of tape stripping.

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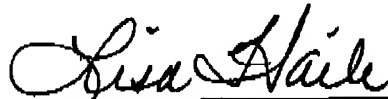
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In view of the amendments previously submitted and the above remarks, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Although no fee other than that submitted herewith is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Supplemental Amendment, if any additional fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Acct. No. 50-1355.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if there are any questions relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Exhibits "A" and "B"